



Cabazon Circle

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Report: Native American trust obligations going unmet

Federal spending on Indian programs has declined in buying power on all levels

WASHINGTON - The federal government is meeting increasingly fewer of its trust obligations to American Indians, according to a scathing report by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights that comprehensively lists the deficiencies at each federal agency that works in Indian country.

In one particularly glaring example, it notes that the U.S. government spends twice as much per capita for the health care of federal prisoners as it does on Indian people.

Mary Frances Berry, chair of the commission, wrote to President George Bush and Congressional leaders "that federal funding directed to Native Americans has not been sufficient to address the basic and very urgent needs of indigenous peoples. Among the myriad unmet needs are: health care, education,



Construction moves quickly

AEL Construction crews worked through the heat of August to make progress on the casino portion of the tribe's expansion. For more on the subject, see page 2.

public safety, housing and rural development."

Elsie M. Meeks, Lakota, is the first Indian to serve on the Civil Rights Commission.

What the Commission calls a "quiet crisis" of unmet needs comes despite increased federal funding over the last 10 years. "However," it noted, "this has not been nearly enough to compensate for a decline in spending power, which had been evident for decades before that, nor to overcome a long and sad history

of neglect and discrimination."

Funding for the BIA between 1975 and 1980, for instance, "declined by \$6 million yearly when adjusted for inflation."

The Commission tallied \$7.4 billion in unmet Indian needs at the BIA for the year 2000. Tribal Priority Allocations registered a \$2.8 billion shortfall, while it estimated the deferred maintenance backlog of BIA schools at \$507 million "and increasing at an annual rate of \$56.5

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THE CARY COLLECTION



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INTERNS END SUMMER



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RECALL CANDIDATES



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million.”

At the Department of Health and Human Services, “the federal government spends less per capita on Native American health care than on any other group for which it has this responsibility, including Medicaid recipients, prisoners, veterans and military personnel. Annually (the Indian Health Service) spends 60 percent less on its beneficiaries than the average per person health care

“Poor economic conditions have resulted in food shortages and hunger. Native Americans are more than twice as likely as the general population to face hunger and food insecurity.”

expenditure nationwide.”

At the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Native American funding increased more slowly than for the department as a whole, and “after controlling for inflation, HUD’s Native American programs actually lost spending power.”

The Department of Justice fares no better. According to the commission “per capita spending on law enforcement in Native American communities is roughly 60 percent of the national average.”

In addition, while DOJ should be given credit for good intentions, “Native American law enforcement funding increased almost 85 percent between 1998 and 2003, but the

amount allocated was so small to begin with that its proportion to the department’s total budget hardly changed.”

At the Department of Education, “tribal colleges and universities receive 60 percent less federal funding per student than other public community colleges.”

The Department of Agriculture’s “insufficient funding has limited the success of development programs and perpetuated unstable economies” in Indian country. “Poor economic conditions have resulted in food shortages and hunger. Native Americans are more than twice as likely as the general population to face hunger and food insecurity.”

The Indian food commodities program “lost funding when accounting for inflation (2.8 percent)

between 1999 and 2003,” the Commission said.

“The conditions in Indian country could be greatly relieved if the federal government honored its commitment to funding, paid greater attention to building basic infrastructure and promoted self-determination among tribes,” the commission said.

It also found “the federal government fails to keep accurate and comprehensive records of its expenditures on Native American programs.”

It offered 11 recommendations to remedy the situations it enumerated, and said if the government failed to act, then “this country’s agreements with Native people, and other legal rights to which they are entitled, are little more than empty promises.”



Shovels carry on

Construction on the Fantasy Springs Casino expansion continued through August, slowed only by a couple days of serious rain that threatened to turn the site into an impromptu swimming hole. Work on the tribe’s new resort and convention center continued as well, just to the rear of the casino. The new building should begin appearing shortly, as the base work is completed.

Department of Energy awards tribal grants

Cabazons use award to strategize energy uses for tribal members on rez

The Department of Energy (DOE) plans to award \$800,000 to nine Native American tribes, including the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, to support the initial steps needed to develop renewable energy and energy efficiency projects on tribal lands. Initial steps include strategic planning, energy options analysis, human capacity building and organizational development planning.

"With financial and technical support from the Department of Energy, these tribes can take the steps in developing energy resources that can lead to a stronger economy, more jobs and a better life for tribal members," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said.

The Cabazon Band will use its grant to develop a strategic energy plan to help the tribe achieve economic diversity and self-sufficiency, and protect the health and welfare of tribal members. The Cabazon Reservation has the seventh highest electricity rates among Native American reservations.

Other tribes receiving DOE funds include:

- **The Hopi Tribe** (Kykotsmovi, Ariz.) The Hopi reservation comprises approximately 650,000 acres in northern Arizona. The reservation is rich in energy resources, including coal, solar and wind.

With DOE funding, the tribe will develop a comprehensive energy plan to encourage development of businesses providing renewable energy and energy efficiency products and services. The tribe's goal is to diversify their current coal-

dominated economy.

- **The Smith River Rancheria** (Smith River, Calif.) - The leadership of the Smith River Rancheria, a small reservation located in northern California on the Pacific Ocean, will develop a long-term plan for energy self-sufficiency focusing on renewable energy technologies.

- **The White Earth Reservation** (White Earth, Minn.) - Several northern Minnesota tribes interested in building a common foundation for strategic tribal energy capacity have banded together for strategic energy resource planning.

- **The Citizen Potawatomi Nation** (Shawnee, Okla.) - The Citizen Potawatomi Nation, ninth largest tribe in the U.S. with more than 24,000 members, will conduct strategic energy planning to develop renewable energy resources and explore energy efficiency options.

- **The Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma** (Apache, Okla.) - The Apache Tribe will create an energy office within the tribal government to serve as a focal point for energy issues, assess the energy efficiency of tribal facilities and conduct long-range energy planning.

- **The Yurok Tribe** (Klamath, Calif.) - The Yurok Tribe, with about 3,500 members in northern California, will conduct a study to determine the need for, and the economic feasibility of, a tribal electric power utility.

- **The Samish Indian Nation** (Anacortes, Wash.) - The Samish Nation will develop a 10-year action plan for tribal energy projects, conduct a study of existing energy resources and develop construction techniques for the development of an energy efficient community on 80 acres of tribal land.

'Backfill' legislation boosts non-gaming tribes

Special Distribution Fund gives \$51 million

Governor Gray Davis signed legislation in August that appropriates approximately \$51 million from the Special Distribution Fund (SDF) set up by compacted California Indian tribes to help any shortfall to the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund (RSTF) for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

The RSTF was established to give non-gaming tribes and tribes with less than 350 government gaming machines \$1.1 million dollars from tribes that have casinos. The Fund, the first of its kind in the nation, ensured that all of the tribes in California had the ability to attain economic self-sufficiency.

The Cabazons believe that a portion of the SDF fund should be used for local jurisdictions rather than for tribes with less than 350 government gaming machines.

AB 673 backfills shortfalls to the RSTF, to make up the difference to tribes that have not received the full \$1.1 million. Approximately 75 tribes will benefit from the backfilling to the Fund. The bill makes the backfill to the RSTF "the priority" expenditure from the SDF for future fiscal years. This will not affect the General Fund.

The bill also creates the Office of Problem and Pathological Gambling within the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. It allocates \$3 million to the Department of Alcohol and Drugs Programs to develop a problem gambling prevention program.

California Indian News

Tribal employment rises while other payrolls shrink

California tribal government employment grew by 17.8 percent for the year ending July 2003, far surpassing all other private or public sector employers in the state, California Employment Development Department figures show.

Tribal employment grew by 2.5 percent in July, according to EDD figures, a month which saw the state lose 21,800 jobs, sending the payroll statewide to its lowest level since the job market began sliding more than two years ago.

With the exception of tribal governments, virtually every sector posted losses, including retailing, transportation, manufacturing and business services.

"It's clear to see that tribal governments are contributing jobs and prosperity to the state of California at a time it is needed the most," says Brenda Soulliere, chairwoman of the California Nations Indian Gaming Association and a member of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians.

"Tribes are proud of what they are providing in the way of jobs and economic development, and it's important to note that it is being accomplished without a dime of taxpayers' money."

Tribal governments employ 40,300 workers, according to the EDD, a figure that has risen dramatically since tribal-state gaming compacts were approved in 1999. About 90 percent of the workers are non-Indians.

Much of the growth in employment is attributed to the evolution of tribal government gaming operations from stand-alone casinos to resorts with hotels and other amenities.

"The growth in tribal government employment is likely to continue for the foreseeable future," says CNIGA Executive Director Jacob Coin, "generating economic development and creating jobs for Indians and residents of the surrounding communities." Employment figures can be obtained at: [http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/cal\\$pr.txt](http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/cal$pr.txt).

UC Berkeley Native American history website garners award

BERKELEY – "Images of Native Americans," an electronic collection that includes images and text from Bancroft Library materials covering 400 years of Native American history, has won a special commendation from the American Library Association (ALA).

The ALA also praised the site's navigation features, as well as its chronicling of the evaluation, purchase and behind-the-scenes conservation of James Otto Lewis' "Aboriginal Port Folio," the University of California Library's 9-millionth volume and a jewel in the Bancroft's Native American collection.

The site is available at <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/Exhibits/nativeamericans/24.html>

Bill Brown, Bancroft associate director for public services, culled photographs, lantern slides, illustrations, portraits and other images from rare books, newspapers, pulp magazines, advertisements and other material. He worked with Brooke Dockter of the Library's digital publishing group to produce an easy-to-use digital site that would

educate, entertain and contribute to a better understanding of the historical perceptions of Native Americans.

One online collection highlight is a section devoted to Lewis' "Aboriginal Port Folio," the first color plate book in the nation with images of Native Americans.

On a tour of Native American treaty councils in the upper Midwest in the early 1800s, Lewis sketched the chiefs he saw. Later, he hand-colored their portraits and published these striking images.

While the portraits alone are interesting and informative, the Bancroft website supplements them with images and text from "History of the Indian Tribes of North America, with Biographical Sketches and Anecdotes of the Principal Chiefs," by Thomas L. McKenney and James Hall.

The Bancroft's site also gives an insider's perspective with an essay by Anthony Bliss, the Bancroft's curator of rare books and manuscripts, who writes about the search for new materials, acquisition of the Lewis book, and his own initial reaction.

While Lewis' portrayal of the figures seemed crude, Bliss wrote, they are not overworked or romanticized, and "project a sense of immediacy that is almost unnerving."

Site visitors also are treated to drawings by Infantry Captain Seth Eastman, who was assigned to the Dakota region near modern-day Minneapolis in the mid-1800s. A gifted artist, he teamed up with wife, Mary Henderson Eastman, who developed a close relationship with the Dakota Indians. Together, they produced some of the most important records of Native American life, information now belonging to the Bancroft and available to scholars and others.



By Judy Stapp
Director of Cultural Affairs

News from the Cabazon Cultural Museum

Why are tribal museums important? Since European contact, Native American tribes have been assailed by acts of genocide, dislocation, and efforts to force assimilation. Many tribes have completely disappeared. Some tribes have physically survived, while their languages and customs have not. The survival of the languages, spiritual teachings and customs that sustained their people for thousands of years has been chal-

activities enrich not only the lives of the tribal community, but all Americans.

The Cabazon Cultural Museum provides a structured setting for the crucial tasks of teaching tribal culture. Recently it added a major addition to the museum, The Cary collection, 130-pieces of Native American cultural objects owned jointly by the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians and Twentynine Palms Band of Mission Indians.

Where did the Cary collection originate? Al Cary, previous owner of the collection, was born in Anza, California in 1919. He and his family lived both in Anza and the Coachella Valley where they were avid collectors of Cahuilla objects throughout the 1920s and 1930s, a time when cultural objects were more plentiful and relatively undisturbed. Over the years, the family amassed such a collection of artifacts that it became a tourist attraction.

Eventually Al Cary moved the collection to Oregon. In 2002 Cary made inquiries about returning the collection to the Coachella Valley. "I'm 83," says Cary. "What am I going to do with the artifacts? I feel they belong back where they were found."



Blankets from the collection capture the attention of Cabazon Second Vice Chairman Marc Benitez.

lenged with each generation.

In spite of the losses of the past several hundred years, Native communities still consider themselves wealthy in culture and spirituality. Tribal museums provide a structured setting for the crucial tasks of teaching and studying tribal cultures. These

Jennifer Mike, Government Liaison of the Twentynine Palms Band of Mission Indians, admires a beautiful Cahuilla basket at the Cabazon Cultural Museum.



The Cary collection contains many fine examples of native artifacts including; baskets, ollas (pottery storage vessels used for food and water), bowls and pots, pipes, arrow straighteners, stone tools, baby carriers and blankets. Among the baskets in the collection is a unique basket woven with a rattlesnake, eagle and spider motif, truly a remarkable example of a Cahuilla woman's artistic excellence. The ollas are in excellent condition and several very large ollas are unbroken with beautiful patterns of "fire clouds" clearly visible.

The Cary family has saved precious pieces of history that aid in telling the story of the earliest residents of the Coachella Valley—and now the objects have come back home. The Cabazon Cultural Museum provides a place where native people and the community at large can study and learn about the people who came before them.

Native Americans are becoming an economic power

A new study shows Native Americans are the third fastest growing economic power in the country and will have a \$63 million piece of the economy by the end of the decade. Hispanics are ranked first and Asians second as minority groups with the fastest growing buying power.

The University of Georgia's Selig Center for Economic Growth performed the study, which shows Native American spending power reaching a zenith of \$64 billion before the end of the decade, a growth rate of 227 percent compared to 1990. The Selig Center defines buying power as an individual's total available income after taxes.

Selig Center Director Jeffery Humphreys concludes that Native American buying power will trump

that of whites and African Americans.

"The 1990-2008 percentage gain is much greater than the increases in buying power projected for whites (128 percent), and for blacks (189 percent). It is smaller than those projected for Asians (345 percent) and for Hispanics (357 percent), however. Despite this fast growth, Native Americans will account for only 0.6 of all U.S. buying power in 2008, up slightly from their 0.5 percent share in 1990, when they accounted for only \$19.3 billion in buying power," Humphreys writes.

Unlike some other ethnic groups, Native Americans tend to concentrate on several select states where they have large populations: California, Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico rank first, second, third and fourth,

respectively. They are on pace to spend more than \$10 billion in California and almost \$ 6 million in Oklahoma by 2008. Compare that to only \$3.2 billion in California and \$2.2 billion in Oklahoma in 1990.

Native Americans are also having lots of babies. The Selig Center projects their population will grow at a higher rate than whites, blacks and the general population. All this is predicted to bring the salespeople knocking.

"Although comprising less than one percent of the country's population in 2003, Native Americans will control \$45 billion in disposable income, which makes this diverse group economically attractive to businesses," Humphreys wrote. (Source: *NativeTimes.com*)

Cabazon interns wrap up their summer

Cabazon tribal leaders said goodbye to three students from UC Berkeley in August after a summer of internship in the Public Affairs Department. From left, Cabazon Second Vice Chairman Marc Benitez, intern Oscar Armijo, Chairman John A. James, intern Beatriz Jaime, Cabazon Secretary/Treasurer, and intern Chris Escobedo.



The students were sponsored by Coca-Cola Inc., which has paid for students to help the tribe over the past few years. The tribe put the students to work helping with legislative tracking, government issues, and assisting with public affairs administration. Standing, Coca-Cola sponsor Janet Palomino Howard congratulates Oscar Armijo, who attended a farewell luncheon with his mother, Luisa, left.

Tribe hopes for passage of sacred sites bill

SB18 must pass by Sept. 12 or wait until next year's session

At press time, the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians were awaiting news on whether SB 18, the sacred sites bill, was going to pass. The bill must be adopted by the full state Assembly and Senate prior to Sept. 12, when the legislature adjourns for the year.

At issue is whether state legislators can agree how to protect sites that carry important cultural significance to tribes, and how to balance that protection with the needs of land owners and potential development.

SB 18 creates a process within the California Environmental quality Act (CEQA) in which potential adverse effects on Native American sacred sites from development projects are evaluated and avoided to the maximum extent possible.

Traditional tribal cultural sites are those places that have traditionally been used for Native American cultural practices or ceremonies that are the core of their religious and cultural beliefs, used by many generations for meditation, ceremonies, visions and preparations for rituals.

Under SB 18 the Native American Heritage Commission would create a voluntary list of known traditional tribal cultural sites (TTCS). To avoid conflicts late in the development process, it establishes an early tribal consultation process to provide property owners, project proponents and tribes with information at the earliest possible point in the planning, acquisition and environmental review stage.

TTCSs are brought under the umbrellas of CEQA, which requires a government permitting agency to consider the impacts of a project on

the environment and to either avoid those impacts or to require modifications to the project to lessen the impact.

The new registry of TTCS would replace the current open listing. A site may be nominated by a tribe or by the commission. Prior to acting on a site, the commission would notify property owners and appropriate tribes, accept comments from those parties and prepare written findings. The commission, within

two years, would re-evaluate the eligibility of sites on the old inventory.

Other provisions include providing a site check service at the native American Heritage Commission so that project proponents can make an informal inquiry about the possible presence of a TTCS and including TTCSs in open space elements of local government plans to provide advance notice to potential project developers.



California Tribal Police Association meets at rez

California Tribal Police Association members gathered at the Cabazon reservation in August to discuss issues shared by tribal police across the state. Above, Cabazon CEO Mark Nichols, former California Attorney General Dan Lungren, and CTPA President Paul Hare of the Cabazon Tribal Police Department.



Below left, Hare, Matt Pryor of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Larry Roten of the Jackson Rancheria, Michael Reese of the Hopland Chief of Police, and Morongo Chief of Police Ralph Landry.

NATIONAL INDIAN NEWS

Ancient buffalo shields returned to Navajo Nation by park service

Three well-traveled buffalo-hide shields — used by medicine men in traditional religious rituals for hundreds of years — have logged one more journey: back to the Navajo Nation.

The National Park Service handed over the shields — missing for more than 140 years — to an elderly Navajo medicine man in a ceremony in Tucson, Ariz., in August.

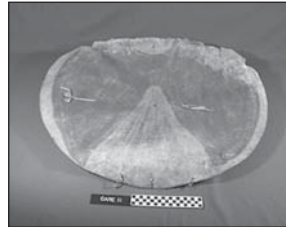
The traditional healer, or hataali, is thought to be one of the last of those trained in ancient ceremonies associated with the shields, according to a statement from the Park Service.

That medicine man described the shields as powerful objects created hundreds of years ago. They were handed down from one hataali to the next for the sacred ceremony called the Protectionway, which safeguarded the Navajos from harm.

The buffalo shields disappeared in the 1860s when the U.S. Army interned the Navajos — who call themselves Diné — in a sprawling prison camp in New Mexico. Legend has it that two hataali fled with other Diné from their Arizona homeland before the roundup ended. With the three large shields, they escaped to the rugged canyon country of southern Utah, where the Army could not find them.

Somewhere between what the Navajo call the No Name Mountains (the Henrys) and Whiteface Mountain (Boulder Mountain), one of the medicine men hid the shields in an effort to keep them from falling into Anglo hands. Those Diné who escaped to Utah remained safe, according to the story, because the shields protected them. But their secret location was lost when the medicine man who cached them suddenly died.

Within the labyrinth of canyons, the sacred objects remained lost as the Navajo were resettled on their present reservation in the Four Corners region of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah. Eventually, the Diné who lived in what is now Wayne County made their way back to Arizona and the reservation, believing the shields could not be found. The medicine men continued to hand down their traditional Protectionway



One of three buffalo shields returned in August.

ritual with song but without the buffalo shields.

In 1926, in Utah's Capitol Reef National Monument (now a national park), an artifact hunter came across a rock shelter below Boulder Mountain, according to the Park Service. Under a layer of dirt, he discovered the buffalo shields wrapped carefully in shredded juniper bark.

Because the cache was within a national monument, the shields were deemed the official property of the federal government and returned to the Park Service in 1953. They were put on display at Capitol Reef.

It wasn't until 1999, that the shields became the focus of concern from Navajos who requested that they be returned to the tribe under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, according to the Park Service. "Under the law, tribes and other Native American groups can request the repatriation of human remains, objects taken from or otherwise associated with graves, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony." (Source: Salt Lake Tribune)

CDC says Native Americans confront more health risks than other groups

Rates of diabetes, injuries and respiratory infections are two to three times higher among Native Americans than the U.S. population, health officials say.

But cancer rates are lower, except among Northern Plains Indians and Alaska natives, who have especially high rates of lung and colon cancer.

The findings, released by the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are part of the agency's effort to periodically highlight health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities.

About 15.3 percent of Native Americans have diabetes, compared with 7.3 percent for all U.S. adults. But while the national rate has increased 54 percent since 1994, the Native American rate has gone up by one-third.

Injuries and violence account for three-fourths of deaths among Native American children, double the U.S. rate. Death rates among Native Americans dropped during the 1990s from motor vehicle crashes, drownings, fires and pedestrian accidents, but the rates from homicides and firearm-related deaths increased.

Bronchiolitis, an infection often caused by the respiratory syncytial virus, accounts for 2 1/2 times as many outpatient visits and nearly 60 percent more hospitalizations among Native American children than the U.S. average. The rates are especially high in Alaska and the Southwest. (Source: The Atlanta Journal-Constitution)

21st Indio POW WOW NATIVE AMERICAN *festival*

October 17-19, 2003

HOST NORTHERN DRUM

Eagle Thunder, ND

HOST SOUTHERN DRUM

Winnebago, IW

ANNOUNCER

Jonathan Windy Boy

ANNOUNCER

Wallace Coffey

ARENA DIRECTOR

Spike Draper

HEAD JUDGE NO.

Rusty Gillette

HEAD JUDGE SO.

Salina Todome

HEAD SINGING JUDGE NO.

Beaver Campbell

HEAD SINGING JUDGE SO.

Larry Cozad

HEAD WHISTLEMAN

Julius Not Afraid

HEAD GOURD DANCER

Glen Ahhaitty

SPOONKEEPER

Richard & Vickie Webster

POWWOW INFORMATION

Judy Stapp, Cabazon Band

(800) 827-2946 x3017

Jim Red Eagle

(714) 654-9352

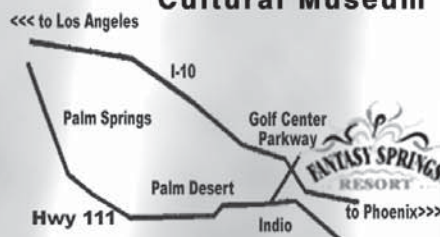
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BOOTH INFORMATION

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CABAZON INDIAN RESERVATION

I-10 And Golf Center Parkway

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S.C.I.N. Circuit (Southern California Indian Nations)

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BARONA
Lakeside, CA
(619) 561-5560

September 26-28
MORONGO
Cabazon, CA
(800) 252-4499

September 5-7
SYCUAN
Alpine, CA
(619) 445-7776

October 10-12
SAN MANUEL
San Bernardino, CA
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September 13-14
SANTA YNEZ
Santa Ynez, CA
(805) 688-7997

OCTOBER 17-19
INDIO
Indio, CA
(800) 827-2946

Pow wow Trail of California

September 19-21
SOBOBA
San Jacinto, CA
(909) 654-2765

December 5-7
29 PALMS BAND
Coachella, CA
(760) 775-3239

Sen. Tom McClintock, joined by CNIGA Chairwoman Brenda Soulliere, addresses the CNIGA meeting.



Davis Recall: CNIGA hears from contenders

Below, Sen. McClintock. At right, Davis greets CNIGA members. At bottom, CNIGA members listen to speakers.



Brenda Soulliere, with Anthony Miranda of the Pechanga tribe to her left, answers reporters questions during a break.



Assemblyman Lou Correa speaks to CNIGA about his bill to allow tribes to issue their own state tax-exempt bonds.



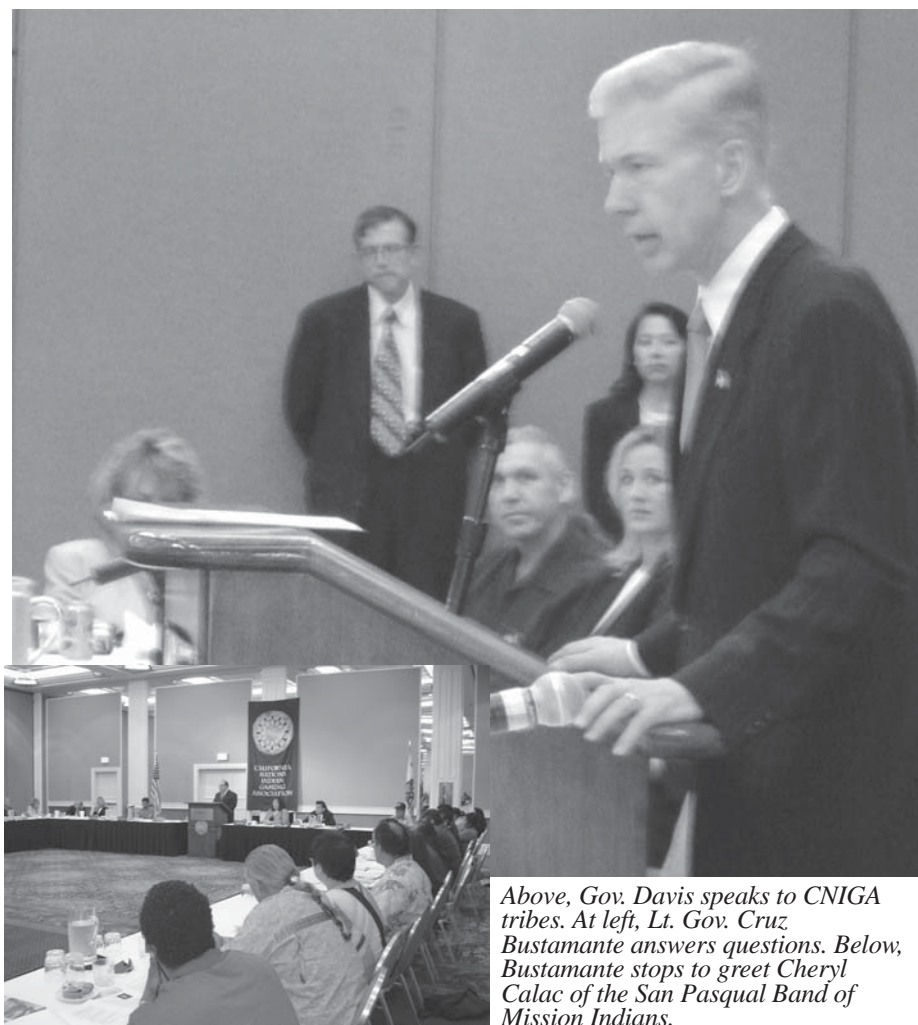
On August 28, California Nations Indian Gaming member tribes met in Sacramento, spending most of the day hearing from contenders for the recall election, including Gov. Gray Davis. Davis, facing recall in an election Oct. 7. Davis spoke in an effort to cement his support from the tribes.

"I'm the best governor for tribes this state has ever had," Davis said. He also apologized for not being more communicative with gaming tribes when he fashioned the state's budget on the assumption that Indian gaming would offer up \$1.5 billion into the general fund. The assumption was wrong, he said.

Sen. Tom McClintock, a conservative Republican, promised to respect sovereignty if elected to the governor's post. "Tribes should be able to do as they like within the borders of a reservation. Sovereignty is sovereignty," he said. He also commended gaming tribes for providing the state with its only growing employment sector.

Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, who has historically been supportive of tribal governments, has offered himself as the alternative candidate to Davis, saying "vote no on the recall, yes on Bustamante."

Conspicuously missing from the day was Republican candidate, actor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who declined an invitation to attend. CNIGA Chairwoman Brenda Soulliere, a Cabazon, said she was refraining from making any judgments about his absence, saying she hoped Schwarzenegger would still meet with tribes before the Oct. 7 election.



Above, Gov. Davis speaks to CNIGA tribes. At left, Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante answers questions. Below, Bustamante stops to greet Cheryl Calac of the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians.



Sister cities celebrate in the desert

Tequila and Jalisco residents share with Cabazon, Palm Desert and Cathedral City

The U.S./Mexico International Sister City Association held its 40th Annual convention at the Doral Resort Hotel in Cathedral City in August, including a dinner hosted by the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians and a tour of the tribe's businesses.

The conference hosted more than 300 delegates from throughout the United States and Mexico. The cities of Cathedral City, Palm Desert and the Mexican city of Tequila, Jalisco co-hosted the convention.

The delegates spent four days learning about programs and activities in the desert, while experiencing American food and customs. Events included a softball game at Big League Dreams Sportspark in Cathedral City, a movie at the Desert IMAX Theater, an evening at the tribe's Fantasy Springs Casino and Fantasy Lanes, the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, and Desert Willow Golf Resort.

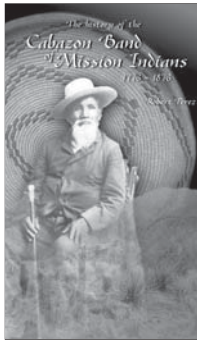
The group also toured the Cabazon's First Nations Recovery Inc. tire recycling plant in Mecca and learned about Waste Management of the Desert's recycling activities.

State Senator Denise Ducheny (D-Chula Vista), Assemblymember Bonnie Garcia (R-Cathedral City) and the Southern California Associations of Governments spoke with the group on their plans for improved trade and transportation between the two nations.



Above center, Virginia Nichols, Cabazon Secretary/Treasurer, visits with emissaries of the Sister Cities Program, along with Paul Slama, far left, of Cabazon Public Affairs. Below left, Joey Acuna, local field representative for state Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson, stops by to meet with sister city guests. At right, Fantasy Springs Casino servers show off the bottled alcoholic version of what is made from the Agave plant.





THE HISTORY OF THE CABAZON BAND OF MISSION INDIANS 1776-1867

554 - \$5

Author Robert Perez (Apache) presents the first definitive history of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians 1776-1876, a culmination of two years of research that included trips to national museums and oral interviews with tribal members. The book was designed and printed by the Cabazon's Fantasy Press Printing & Graphic Design shop on the reservation.



WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR SOME

3014 - \$9.95

On an Indian Reservation in Southern California the flags of two Nations fly with great pride. This video discusses Native Americans and their

journey to retain their sovereign rights. Running time 30 minutes.



SPIRIT TO SERVE

3013 - \$9.95

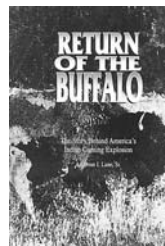
This video, narrated by actor Erik Estrada, shows how the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians' Police and Fire Departments serve and protect people and property, both on the reservation and in the surrounding communities. Running time: 30 minutes.



INNER GNOSIS

3016 - \$14.95

Author Mark Nichols' Inner Gnosis takes an in-depth look at the spiritual and meditative lifestyle in the form of poetry.



RETURN OF THE BUFFALO

555-D - \$18.95

Author Ambrose I. Lane's compelling account of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, who took their fight to the Supreme Court of the United States and won the right to tribal government gaming for all Native Americans.

SAVING THE SALTON SEA - THE VIDEO

SAVING THE SALTON SEA: SOLUTIONS AND THEIR IMPACT

3012-E (English version) - \$9.95

3012-S (Spanish version) - \$9.95

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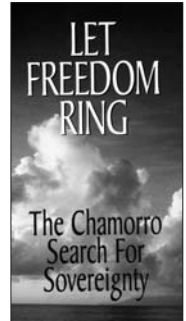
The Cabazon Band and the National Audubon Society present this documentary narrated by acclaimed actors William Devane (English version) and Tony Plana (Spanish version), which examines the facts and impacts on the Colorado River water transfers and the ongoing battle to save North America's third largest inland body of water. Running time (3012-E & 3012-S only): 28 minutes.



LET FREEDOM RING: THE CHAMORRO SEARCH FOR SOVEREIGNTY

3017 - \$9.95

Learn how Cabazon Tribal leaders traveled to Guam to assist the indigenous Chamorros in their search for sovereignty and self-determination. Running time 37 minutes.



TOWNS & TRIBES

3018 - \$9.95

U.S. Congressman Esteban Torres (1982-1998) takes a tour of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians reservation near Indio, Calif. and offers a unique perspective into this sovereign Nation, their history and plans for the future. Running time 30 minutes.



DESERT CAHUILLA VILLAGE



300 years ago..... The sun rises over the village and the Desert Cahuilla Indians began another day of struggle to survive in the harsh valley---portrayed in mural form in Indio, California. Artist Don Gray of Flagstaff, Arizona, painted the original painting and produced the mural. Limited edition prints (8"x38"), numbered and signed by the artist, are available for \$150.00

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INTERNATIONAL

Study looks at arrival date for first Americans

Early humans may have reached the Americas later than some thought.

Humans first arrived in the Americas no earlier than 18,000 years ago, according to a new genetic study, undermining some theories that occupation may have first occurred 30,000 years ago.

"This discovery places the DNA evidence more in line with archaeological data, which is characterized by a clear dearth of sites credibly dated beyond 14,000 years ago," writes Assistant Professor Mark Seielstad, a population geneticist at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, and colleagues in the September issue of the *American Journal of Human Genetics*.

The researchers looked for traces of historical migrations by sampling the Y chromosome, which is found only in males, from 1,935 individuals. They were looking for the diversity in haplotypes, unique DNA configurations which characterise populations.

The major European haplotype, for instance, is M173, while most Native Americans carry the haplotype M3.

Both markers are descendant of M45, which is estimated to date from 40,000 years ago and is almost entirely confined to Central Asia - confirming that the source for both European and American migrations was an ancient Asian population.

But haplotype M3, carried by Native Americans, was not found in Asia, indicating that the mutation occurred after the first populations arrived in the Americas.

In order to find out when the Americas were first

populated, the researchers needed to identify further markers on the M45 lineage that were ancestral to M3 but present in both Central Asia and the Americas.

A mutation, which the researchers called M242, looked promising. It originated after the M45/M74 mutations, which both arose in Asia, but before M3, which first arose in the Americas.

"This places it within a crucial gap that is very close in time to the entry of the first modern humans into the American continents," wrote the researchers.

By calculating an approximate rate at which DNA on the Y chromosome mutates, and the time taken for a single male generation, the researchers established that M242 originated at a maximum date of 18,000 years ago.

"There is no evidence for a pre-Native American (population)," said Dr Spencer Wells, a geneticist at Britain's University of Oxford and one of the authors of the study. "It is extremely unlikely that there could have been anyone there before."

The results also match existing archaeological data, according to Professor

Richard Jantz, director of the Forensic Anthropology Centre at the University of Tennessee.

"The oldest skeletal remains are not more than about 12,000 or 13,000 years," he said. "If people were (in the Americas) 30,000 years ago, it is odd that we don't find their remains. An early migration - circa 15,000 years ago - followed by a later one - 6,000 to 10,000 years ago - fits well with the cranial evidence." (Source: *Discovery News*)

In order to find out when the Americas were first populated, the researchers needed to identify further markers on the M45 lineage that were ancestral to M3 but present in both Central Asia and the Americas. Haplotype M3, carried by Native Americans, was not found in Asia, indicating that the mutation occurred after the first populations arrived in the Americas.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING...

On The Talking Stick

In August, The Talking Stick taped a week of shows in Sacramento, bringing in speakers on the subject of the Salton Sea. The Cabazon Band of Mission Indians has long supported efforts to protect and save the sea, and CEO Mark Nichols, the show's host, interviewed some of the state's hardest working advocates for the sea.



MICHAEL J. COHEN
SENIOR ASSOCIATE,
THE PACIFIC INSTITUTE

The Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security is an independent, non-profit center created in 1987 to conduct research and policy analysis in the areas of environment, sustainable development, and international security.

Underlying all of the Institute's work is the recognition that the pressing problems of environmental degradation, regional and global poverty, and political tension and conflict are interrelated, and that solutions require an interdisciplinary perspective.

Michael J. Cohen's current research focuses on water use in the lower Colorado River basin and delta region. He is the lead author of the Pacific Institute's 1999 report entitled: "Haven or Hazard: The Ecology and Future of the Salton Sea", and recently published "Missing Water: The Uses and Flows of Water in the Colorado River Delta Region".

Cohen is one of the non-governmental representatives on the International Boundary and Water Commission Minute 306 Implementation planning committee and helped drafted an alternative, environmentally benign set of interim surplus criteria for the lower Colorado River.



KIM DELFINO
CALIFORNIA DIRECTOR,
DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

Defenders of Wildlife dedicates itself to the protection of all native wild animals and plants in their natural communities. It focuses programs on what scientists consider two of the most serious environmental threats to the planet: the accelerating rate of extinction of species and the associated loss of biological diversity, and habitat alteration and destruction. California is a leader in environmental protection. California has its own Endangered Species Act and many other landmark environmental laws. "There will



be no peace on the Colorado River or in the Salton Sea basin until the Department of the Interior carries out its long-term responsibility to protect and restore the Salton Sea," Delfino says. "The federal government has shirked its responsibility to address the Sea."



JIM METROPULOS, LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE SIERRA CLUB

Sierra Club California is the largest public interest environmental organization in California with over 205,000 members. Jim Metropulos came to Sierra Club California in February 2002 as legislative representative on issues related to wildlife, transportation, parks and recreation, and water supply. Before coming to the Sierra Club, he was committee counsel to the Washington State Senate Environment, Energy and Water Resources Committee. Previously he clerked for Justice Jim Regnier of the Montana Supreme Court. He graduated from Tulane Law School specializing in Environmental Natural Resources Law and was research assistant to Professor Oliver Houck. While in law school, he interned for the National Wildlife Federation in Washington, D.C.

NICA KATHERINE KNITE
SALTON SEA WATER TRANSFERS,
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



The Center for Biological Diversity is a national organization dedicated to protecting endangered species and wild places of North America and the Pacific through science, policy, education, and environmental law. "The Salton Sea is one of the most important and imperiled locations along the Pacific Flyway," says Knite. "With over 90 percent of California's wetlands destroyed, the Salton Sea provides essential habitat for dozens of rare birds and must be protected."

Torres-Martinez and Gov. Davis sign gaming compact

Gov. Davis presses tribe to agree to sharing proceeds from gaming machines

THERMAL, Calif. – The Davis administration signed its first new government gaming compact in nearly four years in August, after finalizing negotiations with the Torres-Martinez Band of Desert Cahuilla Indians.

The Torres-Martinez of Thermal, desert neighbors to the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, agreed to give the state a share of its profits from 350 gaming machines to be installed at a State Route 86 truck stop it plans to open in Imperial County sometime in the next year.

The tribe will also install 1,650 machines at a casino it wants to build on up to 640 acres near Interstate 10 in Coachella in Riverside County. But the terms of any contribution to the state from those machines will be negotiated later, after pacts are signed with other tribes.

The Torres-Martinez casino will be in the vicinity of the Cabazon's Fantasy Spring Casino, and the Twentynine Palms Band of Mission Indians which operates Trump 29 Casino in Coachella, although officials have not yet announced its location. Tribal Chairman Raymond Torres said it would be four or five miles east of Dillon Road in Coachella.

"We knew we wouldn't get a compact without the general fund contribution," Torres said.

After six hours of "really, really intense negotiations, we agreed to 3 percent the first year, 4 percent the next year and then 5 percent when we'll have our new casino up and running."

The compact left open the terms of any contributions to be made by the tribe, said Gene Madrigal, attorney for the tribe.

Officials could not estimate how much money that will bring.

The tribe's agreement to work with local cities and counties to offset any problems from the casinos also met another goal, officials said. But the tribe had no choice, because that was required by a federal law implementing a court settlement of the tribe's suit over the 1905 accidental aqueduct breach that created the Salton Sea and inundated 9,000 acres of the Torres-Martinez band's 12,000-acre reservation.

Torres told a news conference in tribal headquarters that "after the negotiations were over and I was on the plane home, I thought, 'Wow,' the Torres Martinez has met its goal."

The tribe will break ground in late October on the first phase of the development: a truck stop and travel center. The second phase will follow in a few months and will include the casino, and eventually a hotel.

The tribe already has obtained a loan from Canyon National Bank of Palm Springs and hired Native Sons Enterprises of San Francisco to develop the casino and truck stop and travel center.

When both developments are complete, the tribe will have the first casinos encountered by travelers coming from the east on Interstate 10 and southeast on State Route 86 as they enter the Coachella Valley.

Mark Nichols, Cabazon CEO, was pleased that the tribe had finalized its compact. "This will create a density of casinos near our resort that will be advantageous to the community," he said. "The economic

The Torres-Martinez agreed to give the state a share of its profits from 350 gaming machines to be installed at a State Route 86 truck stop it plans to open in Imperial County sometime in the next year.

impacts will affect the eastern Coachella Valley overall by bringing in more visitors and new tourist dollars."

The Cabazons have already created the East Valley Tourist Development Authority to help pave the way for bringing into the area projects that serve the area through intelligent growth. Working with local communities and building infrastructure in the eastern valley is a part of that goal.

Nichols said he looked forward to the project's completion. "We support the tribe and their efforts toward self-sufficiency through economic development. It's good for all of us."

The compact requires the tribe to enter binding agreements with local governments before it can begin construction, a process already begun with Imperial County for the casino and truck stop and travel center.

The tribe is able to build a casino off reservation land because of an act of Congress that compensated the tribe for losing half its tribal land to an expanding Salton Sea.

President Benjamin Harrison designated 12,000 acres in 1891 as Torres Martinez land, but in 1905 the Colorado River burst through a canal, creating what is now the Salton Sea and submerging half the reservation under water. The sea has since become an integral part of the Coachella Valley environment.

In 2000 President Bill Clinton signed the act allowing the tribe to purchase 12,000 acres of land to add to their existing reservation and remote 640 acres on Interstate 10 for a casino.

The Cabazon Circle

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The Cabazon Circle is a newsletter to inform Tribal Members, employees and friends of the current events concerning the Band and the greater interests which bind all Native peoples. If you would appreciate receiving a monthly newsletter, let us know so that we can put you on our mailing list.

Please share your ideas and announcements by calling Dave Martinez at the Tribal Office at (760) 342-2593, ext. 3167.

Please visit our Web Site at <http://www.cabazonnation.com>

The Cabazon Circle is printed by Coachella Valley Printing Group of Indio, Calif., a business interest of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN NEWS

HOWARD DEAN CAMP CRITICIZES TRIBAL GAMING

Former Vermont Governor Howard Dean continues to lead the pack of Democratic presidential candidates, but his stance on Native American issues is coming under increased scrutiny.

Jeff Benay is chairman of the Vermont Governor's Advisory Commission on Native American Affairs, a cabinet position formed before Dean took office. He says Dean is sympathetic to Indian issues, but worries about the effect gaming has on tribes, as well as the atmosphere it brings.

"His [Dean's] record is consistent in his opposition to gaming. Howard Dean has never supported gaming in the state of Vermont," said Benay. "We can talk about the very few tribes who have done well with gaming, but overwhelmingly tribes have suffered miserably by hiring unscrupulous consultants in their gaming operations."

April Rushlow is the Chief of the San Francis Sokoki Band of Abenaki Indians, based in Swanton. The tribe was briefly given state recognition in 1976. The following governor rescinded the order and the Abenakis have been fighting for recognition ever since. During his 11 years in office, Dean refused to recognize the tribe, worried that it would open the door to federal recognition and subsequent casino gambling.

"He didn't want to recognize that the Abenaki exist except when it came to things like a financial gain for the state in tourism," Rushlow said. "There is not an anthropologist or archeologist in the state who would agree with Dean that we don't exist."

Despite the 11 years he spent opposing the Abenaki in their attempt to achieve state recognitions, Dean's national advisors claim those views are limited only to Vermont.

"He supports the rights of federally recognized tribes to engage in economic development, including gaming where it is legal," said Dean spokeswoman Laura Harris.

But don't his previous statements contradict that claim? "The difference is on a national basis," Harris said. (*Source: Native American Times*)

JOHN KERRY STEPS IN

Democrat John Kerry formally launched his presidential candidacy in August by offering his Vietnam War credentials and tenure as a Senator as an alternative to President Bush's record.

"Every day of this campaign, I will challenge George Bush for fundamentally taking our country in the wrong direction," Kerry said at the announcement. "George Bush's vision does not live up to the America I enlisted in the Navy to defend."

With his former war compatriots at his side, Kerry made the announcement with the aircraft carrier USS Yorktown as a backdrop.

The four-term Massachusetts senator was viewed as the Democratic front-runner in the crowded field of nine, although he faces continuing heat from party rival Howard Dean who came out strong over the summer.

The tone of Kerry's speech was the subject of fierce debate within the campaign over whether to focus on his resume and Bush's performance or to criticize Dean. The former Vermont governor has grabbed a 21-point lead over Kerry in a recent New Hampshire poll.

SCIENCE AND ARCHEOLOGY UPDATE

Native American lives studied at Moundville

The site represents Native American culture in a bustling southeastern city in the 1300s

MOUNDVILLE, Ala. — On the shore of the Black Warrior River 800 years ago, fine dining meant a meal of peregrine falcon, seafood and the juiciest cuts of venison. The less blessed ate corn meal, raccoon and deer stew.

The differences of the social classes at Moundville, a Mississippian American Indian civilization in west-central Alabama, are the subject of a July paper published in *American Antiquity* journal.

By examining food remains from digs at the site from the past 10 years, researchers are putting together a clearer picture of life on the mounds.

The Mississippian culture thrived in the United States from around 800 A.D. to the arrival of European explorers around 1500 and included many groups living along rivers, mostly in the mid-South. They were characterized by corn-growing, craft-making and mound-building.

“What we were finding is that the elite living in these mounds did have more deer in their diet, more turkey in their diet – the best things to eat,” said Edwin Jackson, professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and co-author with Susan Scott of the paper.

“More importantly, a number of animals they were consuming are animals that we recognize in Southeast mythology and symbolism as being symbols of power and symbols of the sword that we just don’t find where commoners were living.”

For example, the peregrine falcon, a common figure in ceremonial copper artwork, reflected the chiefly power of Mississippian societies, he said. The birds’ bones were found at Moundville along with other food remains, a rare find, Jackson said. Cougar bones were also found.

“You just don’t find them in a refuse pile, you find them associated with burials,” he said of the falcons. “One of the ways to maybe demonstrate an increased power was to consume those animals.”

At the height of the Moundville civilization, which existed from about 1000 to 1450 A.D., about 1,000 “elite” members of society lived on and around 26 earthen mounds along the river. Another 10,000 commoners lived on nearby farmland.

It was the largest Mississippian civilization at its heyday, the “New York City of the Southeastern United States around 1300 A.D.,” said Professor Jim Knight of the University of Alabama, who directed much of the

Moundville research.

Evidence supports the theory that commoners brought food to the elite, who worked on crafts or religious projects, Jackson said. Jackson said that is seen by the pattern of deer consumption.

While both elite and commoner ate deer, only bones from the choicest parts of the deer are found in the mounds, while entire deer skeletons are found in outlying areas.

That shows that the deer were probably butchered and processed elsewhere and then brought to the mounds, Jackson said.

“If you’d like to think of it as being catered, that would be the modern equivalent,” Knight said. “If these people were around today they would be getting their meals catered at some of the finer places in Birmingham.”

There were also subtle differences among the elite. Excavations included two mounds, dubbed Mound G and Mound Q. Both were thought to be platforms for houses of elite families. However, Mound G, which is slightly smaller, did not have peregrine falcon bones. Also, deer bones found there were more fragmentary. Splintered bones show more processing, Jackson said, and could denote that the bones were stewed to extract more meat. In other words, richer people threw more food away.

The elite also distinguished their lives from those of the commoners by wearing jewelry and trading among other societies – acquiring sharks’ teeth and bison, which were not native to the area.

Elite burials are characterized by special artifacts found with bodies including ceramic vessels.

“What we’re trying to understand is what are the implications of being an elite,” Jackson said. “What kind of rites and advantage does that provide? The work that has been done in Moundville in the last few years has really begun to flesh out the picture of this prehistorical society and the social relationships.”

The kind of social stratification seen at Moundville was not common for the time, Knight said. Just a few hundred years before, societies around the same region were completely egalitarian, he said.

However, it was not unheard of in American Indian societies; both the Aztecs and Mayas used social class systems, he said.

“Most other places didn’t have the social hierarchy that you see so dramatically at Moundville,” Knight said. “Moundville was probably a very famous place at its height – to go on pilgrimage to see the magnificence of what was there.” (Source: *The Birmingham News*)



CABAZON TRIBAL PROFILE

Jo Ann Verzi

Title: Health Service Manager

What that means: I am the Registered Nurse who is here on the reservation through a contract between the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians and John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital. I provide Health Care services to the members of the Cabazon Tribe and the employees of Fantasy Springs Casino as well as FNRI and other outside tribal owned businesses.

Best thing about the job: I like the variety of the job plus the interesting people I meet and work with, hopefully to help them learn how to take better care of themselves.

Family: I have a son in Chicago, two grown grandsons and three great grandchildren, 2-year-old McKenna and her twin baby brothers, Aidan and Garrett, born March 21, 2003. Since I really have no family, except a couple of cousins, my friends play a very important part of my life.

Education: I was educated at a 3-year nursing diploma program in Champaign, Ill. I later returned to school and got my Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration. I am a Certified Risk Manager, having studied at the University of California.

Hobbies and Interests: I have a very personal interest in helping with the early diagnosis of children with diabetes since I lost my only child to this disease many years ago. Yearly I try to spend some of my vacation at the Sun Valley Indian School in Holbrook, Ariz. I have helped to diagnose Indian children with diabetes as well as check the staff. Recently, I was able to find two staff members with the disease and to get them into their health care provider.

Monthly I write Jo's Jottings for the Fantasy Update and I also have a paper ready for publication on the subject of Parenting Your Parents. I have conducted workshops for several different organizations on this major life style change which most people will sometime experience.

I am a landscape artist and enjoy painting in oil, acrylic as well as watercolors and I have had several one-woman art exhibits.

I hope, when I decide to retire to be able to pursue all of these interests full time as well as be available to volunteer more time to the Children's Program and the Mission work of my church.

Favorite Book: Bible

Favorite Movie: *Gone With the Wind* and *Dr. Zagavori*. I enjoy all types of music from Native American Chants to jazz.

Philosophy: Do your best and God will do the rest.



Cabazon Nurse Jo Ann Verzi, center, is joined by Marc Benitez and Virginia Nichols, both members of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians Business Committee.



CAHUILLA CORNER did you know?

Mountain sheep were the most dangerous animals for Cahuilla hunters to hunt because they usually lived on tall, steep cliffs. Hunters had to watch their footing in this dangerous territory. The hunters usually hid in well-camouflaged blinds at a water hole and shot arrows at the mountain sheep when they came to drink.

Tracy Byrd courts a crowd

Tracy Byrd, the country music favorite from Beaumont, Texas, brought his songs to Fantasy Springs Casino in August to a sell-out crowd. Byrd's anthem to gender differences, *The Truth About Men* is the title track to his ninth album, which has been attracting fans of all kinds. "We've got all these songs, starting with *The Truth About Men*. I wouldn't call them all party songs, but they're all fun, they're all celebrating something," Byrd says.

Tracy has lived for 16 years in Beaumont, Texas, with his wife, Michelle, a Port Arthur native, and kids Eevee, Logan and Jared.



Above, the Texas singer charms the Fantasy Springs crowd that came out to hear him in August. At left, Cabazon First Vice Chairman Charles Welmas visits with the country singer.



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